

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico

Monday, February 20, 2017

<u>Last Economic Activity Index of 2016 Reflects a Dramatic Reduction in Only</u> <u>One Year and the Lowest Number in 25 Years</u>

EAI was 121.1 in December 2016 compared to 124.8 in December 2015

San Juan- Today, the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority (FAFAA) and the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico published the Economic Activity Index (EAI) for the last quarter of 2016. The EAI average for 2016 was 123.4, a 1.8% year-over-year decrease. The four-year term from 2013-2016 has been the only such term during which the EAI has reflected a constant downward behavior year after year. The last year the EAI reflected an average growth was in 2012.

In October 2016, the EAI was 122.8, which reflected a 1.7% reduction compared to October 2015. In November 2016, the EAI was 121.3, which reflected a 2.8% decrease compared to November 2015.

In December 2016, the EAI figure was 121.1, a 2.9% decrease compared to December 2015, which was 124.8, and the lowest number in 25 years.

The analysis of the Economic Unit of FAFAA and GDB reflects reductions in all four indicators, that is, electric power generation, total non-farm payroll employment, cement sales and gasoline consumption, for the last quarter of 2016.

The EAI is an economic tool that summarizes the current trend and dynamics of the economy of Puerto Rico. The EAI was formulated using a methodology similar to that used in The Conference Board's coincident index. The EAI is highly correlated to Puerto Rico's real GNP.

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